

Minutes of the Finance Committee

Wednesday, June 8, 2011

Chair Haukohl called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Pat Haukohl (Chair), Bill Zaborowski, Pamela Meyer, and Jim Heinrich.

Absent: Ted Rolfs, Dave Falstad, and Rob Hutton.

Also Present: Chief of Staff Mark Mader, Community Development Coordinator Glen Lewinski, Hazardous Materials Coordinator Leslie Williams, Environmental Health Manager Steve Korthof, Adolescent & Family Services Manager Pete Slesar, Family Services Social Worker Fred Garcia, and Juvenile Services Social Worker Carlos Manriquez. Recorded by Mary Pedersen, County Board Office.

Approve Minutes of 5-18-11

MOTION: Heinrich moved, second by Zaborowski to approve the minutes of May 18. Motion carried 4-0.

Schedule Next Meeting Dates

- June 22 (8:30 a.m.)
- June 28 (6:15 p.m.)

Review Correspondence

Haukohl noted that she received a copy of the 2010 Annual Jury Report.

Future Agenda Items

Haukohl advised the Finance Committee, at their next meeting, will consider a fund transfer (or ordinance, per Mader) to approve appropriating contingency funds to cover the costs of the State Supreme Court election re-count process.

Contract Procurement Process for Environmental Consulting Services

Williams advised the contract was awarded to BT Squared, Inc., Sigma Environmental Services, Inc., and Tetra Tech GEO, the three highest rated proposers, for a total contract cost of \$52,000. The contract amount is the estimated total for the one-year period based on prior usage. Three vendors were awarded the contract to assure availability of staff. The contract is to be utilized on an as-needed basis. The actual dollars are in each department's budget (Parks & Land Use and Public Works). A total of 16 vendors submitted proposals for consideration.

MOTION: Heinrich moved, second by Zaborowski to approve the contract procurement process for environmental consulting services. Motion carried 4-0.

Contract Procurement Process for the Home Buyer Counseling Program

Lewinski advised the contract was awarded to Housing Resources (Waukesha County) and Jefferson County Economic Development (Jefferson County), the two highest rated proposers, for a total contract cost of \$90,000 for the first year. The first year budgeted amount is listed at \$430,000

which is the total budget for the Home Buying Program. A total of three vendors submitted proposals for consideration.

MOTION: Heinrich moved, second by Meyer to approve the contract procurement process for the Home Buyer Counseling Program. Motion carried 4-0.

Presentation on the Teen Court Video

Garcia said this is a great example of collaboration. UW-Extension provided in-kind donations and because of this collaboration, a quality end product resulted. Wisconsin Correctional Services and the Waukesha Service Club also partnered on the project. Judge Davis was instrumental with helping get volunteers. They also received a grant for just under \$3,300 from the Office of Justice Assistance. The initial goal of the video was to educate the community about Teen Court and encourage volunteers to participate in the program. Staff soon discovered counties interested in starting their own Teen Court Program are looking at Waukesha County as a model. Garcia noted the video is also available on YouTube.

The Waukesha Teen Court is based on the restorative justice model, a diversion program. Juveniles who successfully complete the program have their charges dropped. The court is a learning lesson and juveniles are judged by a jury of their peers. Consequences can include community service, participation in teen court at a later date as part of the jury or act as the prosecution/defense attorneys, letters of apology to the victim or parent, peer mediation, etc. The judge is the only adult in the courtroom for Teen Court. Garcia noted this is a very effective program and research data gathered so far has been positive. Confidentiality is stressed and there have been no instances where this has been breached.

The committee viewed the Teen Court video.

Review Future Agenda Items List

The committee reviewed and revised their future agenda items list.

State Legislative Update by S. Spaeth

Spaeth advised the Joint Finance Committee (JFC) finished their work last Friday around midnight. A positive change for the County was made to Income Maintenance. Madison will no longer be taking care of all services. Instead, all counties except Milwaukee will be required to organize into 10 multi-county consortiums no later than October 1. Each consortium will be responsible for operating call centers, application processing, ongoing case management, eligibility determination, and lobby purposes. Funding will be distributed on a "risk adjusted caseload" basis. Spaeth said we will be seeking more detail on what "risk adjusted caseload" means and which counties will form each consortium. Spaeth indicated Community Aids funding will not be cut. The JFC left the cap in place for Family Care which we had asked they remove. They did add about \$12.6 million for emergency cases although we are not sure what that means exactly. Youth Aids cuts remain and will likely be worse than originally expected. We had been expecting a \$360,000 hit but it will be more like \$420,000. Juvenile rates will be going up \$7 per day as proposed by Governor Walker.

Regarding General Transportation Aids, the JFC adjusted Walker's proposal whereas funding cuts for counties will not be as deep as originally anticipated – from \$700,000 to \$500,000 for Waukesha County. They also increased State Highway Maintenance funds. Spaeth advised we may be hearing more about a new law which requires local governments to contract with private road

builders for construction projects costing \$100,000 or more while barring counties from doing work for villages, cities and other counties. This law does not affect Waukesha County as we only do maintenance, not construction.

Another positive for counties was that the JFC restored \$19 million into the Recycling Program, the opposite of what Walker proposed. This funding amount, for the most part, mirrors last year's funding level.

Spaeth indicated a last minute "wrap-up" motion was made around midnight. This included some random items which will affect us and which we didn't anticipate. One provision affects some of our non-union Sheriff's Department staff as they will no longer be required to make pension contributions. This will cost Waukesha County about \$100,000 annually as we would no longer anticipate this as a savings in our "tool box." They also changed the small claims threshold to \$10,000 which is something we had lobbied against. However, there is a bill out there that does the same thing but also increases the filing fee from \$22 to \$44. The County would be able to keep \$31.20 for a total of about \$140,000 for the County annually. Currently, we only get to keep \$10.20. There was no progress on the prevailing wage issue. The JFC capped it at projects that are \$100,000 or less. This motion passed 12-4 along party lines.

MOTION: Zaborowski moved, second by Meyer to adjourn at 10:50 a.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Meyer
Secretary